

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A printing system comprising:

first printing means for printing images in the first size per one print and discharging these images;

second printing means for printing images in said first size per multiple prints and discharging these images; and

control means for determining the number of prints to allocate to each of said first and the second printing means so that the printing is terminated as rapidly as possible corresponding to the total number of prints of said first size to be printed and for controlling said first and the second printing means based on said determination result.

2. A printing system according to Claim 1, wherein:

said second printing means comprises:

the first print mode for printing images in the second size more than two times larger than said first size and discharging these; and

the second print mode for printing images in said first size per multiple prints and cutting off said images per said images and discharging these images; and

said control means shifts the print mode of said second printing means to said second print mode as occasion demands based on the total number of prints of said first size to be printed.

3. A printing method, comprising:

the first step for determining the number of prints to allocate to each of the first and the second printing means so that the printing is finished as rapidly as possible corresponding to the total number of prints of said first size to be printed, for the first printing means for printing images in the first size and discharging these per one print and the second printing means for printing images in said first size per multiple prints and discharging these; and

the second step for controlling said first and the second printing means based on said determination result.

4. A printing method according to Claim 3, wherein:

said second printing means comprises:

the first print mode for printing images in the second size that is more than two times larger than the first size and discharging these; and

the second print mode for printing images in said first size per multiple prints and cutting these off per said images and discharging these; and

said second step shifts the print mode of said second printing means to said second print mode as occasion demands based on the total number of prints of said first size to be printed.

5. A recording medium storing programs to execute the

processing comprising:

the first step for determining the number of prints to allocate to each of said first and the second printing means so that the printing is finished in a minimum amount of time corresponding to the total number of prints of said first size to be printed; regarding the first printing means for printing images per one print in the first size and discharging these and the second printing means for printing images in the first size per multiple prints and discharging these; and

the second step for controlling the first and the second printing means based on said determination.

6. A recording medium according to Claim 5, wherein:

said second printing means comprises:

the first print mode for printing and discharging images in the second size more than two times larger than said first size; and

the second print mode for printing images in the first size and separating said images and discharging these; and
said second step shifts the print mode of said second printing means to said second print mode as occasion demands based on the total number of prints of said first size to be printed.